osmotic function is a recombinant gelatin-like protein with a molecular weight from at least 10,000 Daltons to at most 50,000 Daltons and has an isoelectric point less than 8.

- 2. (currently amended) Composition suitable as a substitute for plasma comprising a solution of saline in a physiologically acceptable concentration and a protein having a colloid osmotic function characterized in that wherein the protein having a colloid osmotic function is a dimer or a trimer or a tetramer of a recombinant gelatin-like protein with a molecular weight from at least 10,000 Daltons to at most 50,000 Daltons and has an isoelectric point of less than 8.
- 3. (currently amended) Composition according to claim 1 or 2 wherein the recombinant gelatin-like protein has a molecular weight from at least 15,000 Daltons to at most 25,000 Daltons.
- 4. (currently amended) Composition according to any of the preceding claims claim 1 in which the recombinant gelatin-like protein has an isoelectric point from at least 4 to at most 7.
- 5. (currently amended) Composition according to any of the preceding claims claim 1 wherein the number of negatively charged amino acid amino acid residues at pH 8 in the recombinant gelatin-like protein, minus the number of positively charged amino acid residues at pH 8 in the recombinant gelatin-like protein is at least 2, preferably at least 3.
- 6. (currently amended) Composition according to any of the preceding claims claim 1 wherein said recombinant gelatin-like protein is a human gelatin-like protein.
- 7. (currently amended) Composition according to any of the preceding claims claim 1

wherein the recombinant gelatin-like protein with an isoelectric point of less than 8 is obtained by replacement of glutamine by glutamic acid and/or replacement of asparagine by aspartic acid.

- 8. (currently amended) Composition according to any of the previous claims claim 1 wherein said recombinant gelatin-like protein comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 or SEQ ID NO: 4.
- 9. (original) A process for using a recombinant gelatin-like protein with a molecular weight from at least 10,000 Daltons to at most 50,000 Daltons as plasma expander, said recombinant gelatin-like protein having an isoelectric point of less than 8.
- 10. (original) A process for using a dimer or a trimer or a tetramer of a recombinant gelatin-like protein with a molecular weight from at least 10,000 Daltons to at most 50,000 Daltons as plasma expander, said recombinant gelatin-like protein having an isoelectric point of less than 8.
- 11. (currently amended) The process according to claim 9 or 10 9 in which the recombinant gelatin-like protein has a molecular weight from at least 15,000 Daltons to at most 25,000 Daltons.
- 12. (currently amended) The process according to claim 9-11 9 in which the recombinant gelatin-like protein has an isoelectric point from at least 4 to at most 7.
- 13. (currently amended) The process according to claim 9-12 9 wherein the number of negatively charged amino-acid residues at pH 8 in the recombinant gelatin-like protein minus the number of positively charged amino acid residues at pH 8 in the recombinant gelatin-like protein is at least 2, preferably at least 3.

- 14. (currently amended) The process according to claim 9-13 9 in which the recombinant gelatin-like protein is a human gelatin-like protein.
- 15. (currently amended) The process according to claim 9-14 9 in which the recombinant gelatin-like protein comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 or SEQ ID NO: 4.